

Paper-money guides pump up summer slump

By Roger Boye

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IN SPITE of the usual summer slump in the enthusiasm of some collectors, numismatic book publishers continue in high gear.

"Price Guide for the Collector of Modern U.S. Paper Money Errors" is edited by Tom DeLorey and Fred L. Reed. This third edition is likely to be more popular than the 1973 edition, thanks to the "upside down" bills discovered several months ago and the national publicity they received. The new edition includes much information on those latest goofs by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, as well as material on many other errors.

The editors are both Coin World staff members. Reed has authored most of the stories the weekly newspaper has published on the upside down bills.

The paperback book is illustrated and includes

price information. For a copy, send \$3 to Paper Money Errors, P.O. Box 150, Sidney, Ohio 45365.

"Hewitt-Donlon Catalog of U. S. Small Size Paper Money" by William P. Donlon, James Grebinger, Lee F. Hewitt, and Nathan Goldstein II has for the last 12 years been one of the more popular books on U. S. small-size paper money, partly because of its convenient size (5 $\frac{1}{4}$ -by-7 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches) and its low cost (\$2.50).

The 1977 edition (the 13th) includes updated price information, and some additional explanatory material for the same \$2.50 price. The new edition, like last year's, contains dozens of photographs and the fascinating section on currency errors and misprints.

The book is available in many coin stores, or by writing the publisher, Hewitt Numismatic Publications, 7320 Milwaukee Av., Chicago 60648.

THAT FLORIDA collector who said he found a

1977/6 overdate cent in circulation was arrested by the Secret Service on July 17 and charged with fraudulently altering U.S. coinage.

Secret Service agents also arrested another Florida man in connection with the forgeries and confiscated equipment the two men allegedly used to make the overdate cents.

Apparently, the men made 22 of the fake coins, all of which are in the possession of the Secret Service.

IF GEORGE Washington looks a bit clearer on 1977-dated quarters (collectors have been finding many of them in circulation) your eyes aren't playing tricks on you.

Engravers at the U. S. Mint have made slight changes on both sides of the quarter, making the design more distinct and slightly reducing the coin's thickness. Some vending machine operators have complained that a few of the "clad" quarters made since 1965 have been too thick, creating problems in their machines.